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Construction begins on Grandad boat ramp extension at Dworshak

Orofino, Idaho – Construction to extend the Grandad boat ramp and to create a low water parking area started last week, according to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recreation and operations officials at Dworshak Dam and Reservoir.

“Extending the ramp about 500 feet and developing a new parking area will enable launching at Grandad for an extra six months during most years. It will also allow for large boat launching,” said Paul Pence, natural resource manager at Dworshak.

The improvements were made possible by a partnership between the Corps’ Walla Walla District and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. A \$150,000 Waterways Improvement Fund grant was awarded for the ramp project. The Corps engineered and designed the job, and the construction contract was awarded to Crea Construction of Lewiston, Pence explained. Construction will continue through the first week of December.

Other expected benefits of the ramp extension are increased visitor safety, as well as lessen the chance of vehicles getting stuck in dirt and mud, or hung-up on wet, slippery rocks during periods of lower water levels at the reservoir, said Heather Burke, a Dworshak park ranger.

“As always, we want our visitors to have a safe, enjoyable experience here. We ask that visitors to Grandad during this construction period use extra caution near the work area,” said Pence.

For more details, call the Dworshak Visitor Center at (208) 476-1261.

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